POLANISIA DODECANDRA IN NEW HAMPSHIRE¹

Polanisia dodecandra (L.) D. C. of the Capparaceae, not previously recorded in New Hampshire, has been found growing in Durham, New Hampshire. In New England, this species was reported only from the Lake Champlain region of Vermont by Bean, Hill, and Eaton (Rhodora, 63:53, 1961). The records, however, are based essentially on specimens in the Harvard Herbaria. In Connecticut, Weatherby reported it from the banks of the Hockanum River in East Hartford, and Driggs, from the vicinity of the Connecticut River at Hartford. These reports are cited in The Catalogue of Flowering Plants and Ferns of Connecticut, State of Connecticut Geological and Natural History Survey, Bull. 14:211, 1910. I have been unable to locate any specimens collected in Connecticut in the herbaria at the University of Vermont, University of Connecticut, Yale University, and the Connecticut Botanical Society.

I found the plants growing in crushed granitic rock of the B&M railroad bed about two hundred yards north of the old Durham depot, on September 4, 1965. The sandy soil beneath the rock was fairly moist despite a dry superficial appearance.

On September 23, 1965, Dr. A. R. Hodgdon, Mr. Wendell Berry, Jr., and I examined the station more closely and estimated that betwen two and three thousand plants were growing in an area about three hundred feet long and thirty feet wide. The plants ranged in height from less than an inch to two feet. The collections from this station have been deposited in the University of New Hampshire Herbarium and in the New England Botanical Club Herbarium at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

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